

Name/Date:

Social Studies 9 Unit 4 Struggle for Control of a Continent

4A Forts and Defense in New France

References:

Cranny, M. (1998) Crossroads: A Meeting of Nations, Ch. 8

Leeuw et al (1985) Thinking About Our Heritage, A Hosford Study Atlas, p. 65-66

Topographic source: contour map, airphoto, or GoogleEarth

video or filmstrip titles (e.g. Origins or Canada: A Peoples' History)

Tasks:

1. Find and locate the following historical places on the map below:

- Fort Duquesne, Fort Frontenac, Quebec, Montreal. Louisbourg, Acadia, Fort Beausejour



2. Examine page 67 in the Hosford Study Atlas and answer the questions below.

A. What does red represent on the maps? Purple? Brown?

B. What four purposes did the fortress towns of Quebec and Montreal have?

C. Describe the natural defenses (physical/geographic advantages) of Quebec and Montreal.

3. Examine page 71 in the Hosford Study Atlas and answer the questions below.

A. What was the purpose of Louisbourg?

B. Describe some of its natural and man-made defenses.

C. Why were the walls so thick?

D. Why was a boom needed to preserve the French ships?

E. Which would be easier to defend: Quebec or Louisbourg? Explain your choice.

4. Look at pages 245-247 in Crossroads and answer the questions below.

A. Compare what is says on Crossroads p. 246 and what Hosford says about Louisbourg... what else can you learn from the new information?

B. Examine the map on p. 245. Why would the Iroquois lands be important in a conflict between England and France? Why would the Iroquois want to ally with one side or the other?

5. OPTIONAL: Study a source which shows the topography of Quebec City (e.g. contour map, airphoto, or GoogleEarth).

C. What is the obvious military advantage to the location of the citadel at Quebec?

6. OPTIIONAL Further reading. If you have completed the other questions, try these next two to give you a background an yet another area of conflict between the French and the British in North America. Read the "article" on Hudson Bay (next page) and answer the following questions.

A. Explain what kind of product the Compagnie du Canada wanted from the native people? What happened to the company after the King Williams War.

B. Locate Albany Factory on a map. Why was the diversion of furs to Albany such a fear to the French? Who wanted to divert the furs and where were they to be diverted from?

Hudson Bay

The failure of the Compagnie du Canada during King Williams war which ended in 1697 added to the loss of the fur supplies of Hudson Bay and left the economy of New France in a dangerous position. An attempt was now made, in spite of the strength of English competition, to bring prosperity back to the fur trade.

Renewal of trade

Since the end of the 15th century, and even when New France had enjoyed the profitable trade of Hudson Bay, trading (which was forbidden to the settlers) had been carried on only by small or unstable companies. In 1717, when trade became free in the interior of the colony, there was an increase in the amount of fur trading. In the same year, a large company, the Compagnie d'Occident, took over the export of beaver fur. This company was replaced in 1718, by a sounder enterprise, the Compagnie des Indes Occidentales.

The only important trade routes that France still possessed were those of the Great Lakes, where obstacles were endangering the whole fur trade. The Fox nation, who lived on the west coast of Lake Michigan, had almost been defeated in 1712. They were, however, continuing their war against the allies of the French. It was becoming evident that, through the Iroquois, the Foxes and their allies were attempting to divert the furs from the Great Lakes to the English trading posts at Albany on Hudson Bay. If this attempt were to succeed, the last great source of furs would be lost to New France. An expedition under Louvigny, in 1716, checked the Foxes a second time, and regular trade was re-established. Then the Foxes created new trouble. After six years, 1728-1734, the French managed to destroy and disperse them for good. Trade returned to normal.